

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 QUITO 01644 081445Z

60

ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SS-15 PA-01 SCA-01 CU-02 AID-05

H-02 IO-10 PM-03 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01

MMS-01 /059 W

----- 090975

R 081435Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4725

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 1644

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PORG, EC

SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTING

REF: A. QUITO 2734 OF APRIL 24, 1974; B. STATE 12320

THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN QUITO 2734, REFERENCED ABOVE, IS STILL VALID TODAY. THERE HAVE CONTINUED TO BE INCIDENTS IN WHICH CIVILIAN LEADERS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED FOR THE EXPRESSION OF VEHEMENT CRITICISM OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT OR ITS LEADERS OR FOR PARTICIPATING IN OR LEADING ACTIONS WHICH TEND TO BE EMBARRASSING. A RECENT EXAMPLE WAS THE ARREST OF EIGHT PERSONS WHO TOOK LEADING ROLES IN A WEEK-LONG GENERAL STRIKE IN THE PROVINCIAL CITY OF MANTA. THESE INDIVIDUALS WERE BROUGHT TO QUITO FOR INTERROGATION AND RELEASED A FEW WEEKS LATER; ONE OF THE GROUP WHO WAS PHYSICALLY UNABLE TO COPE WITH THE CHANGE FROM SEA LEVEL TO QUITO'S 10,000 FOOT ALTITUDE WAS TRANSFERRED AFTER A DAY IN QUITO TO A MEDICAL CLINIC IN GUAYAQUIL, THUS ILLUSTRATING THE GOE'S FUNDAMENTAL, BUT SOMEWHAT ATTENUATED, CONCERN FOR THE WELL BEING OF ITS POLITICAL PRISONERS.

BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

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